

CLAIMS

We claim:

- 1 1. A method in a computing system for managing inventory, the method
2 comprising:
3 extracting inventory location information in a first form that is associated with
4 a first source computerized inventory management system;
5 converting the inventory location information in the first form into inventory
6 location information that is in a second intermediate form; and
7 converting the inventory location information in the second intermediate form
8 into inventory location information in a target form that corresponds to
9 a target computerized inventory management system.

- 1 2. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
2 using the inventory location information in the target form to perform at least
3 one computer-implemented act from a set of computer-implemented
4 acts comprising:
5 creating a new inventory location record in the target computerized
6 inventory management system; and
7 updating an existing inventory location record in the target
8 computerized inventory management system.

- 1 3. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
2 extracting inventory location information in a third form that is associated with
3 a second source computerized inventory management system that is

distinct from the first source computerized inventory management system;

converting the inventory location information in the third form into inventory location information that is in the second intermediate form;

converting the inventory location information in the second intermediate form into inventory location information in the target form; and

using the inventory location information in the target form to perform at least one computer-implemented act from a set of computer-implemented acts comprising:

creating a new inventory location record in the target computerized inventory management system; and

updating an existing inventory location record in the target computerized inventory management system.

4. The method of Claim 1, wherein the second intermediate form includes a list of inventory locations class with a hierarchy of data elements.

5. The method of Claim 4, wherein the hierarchy of data elements includes a plurality of inventory location elements, wherein each of the plurality of inventory location elements includes:

an identifier for identifying the inventory location element;
a base data element for defining:

a location description;

a location name; and

a location type code;

a list of addresses element for defining a plurality of address elements from a party class;

11 a list of related business units elements for defining a plurality of business
12 units associated with the inventory, and wherein each of the plurality
13 of business units associated with the inventory includes an identifier
14 element;
15 a list of related inventory locations for defining a plurality of related inventory
16 locations; and
17 a custom data element for defining customized attributes for the inventory.

1 6. The method of Claim 5, wherein each of the plurality of address elements
2 includes:

3 an address identifier element;
4 an address base data element, wherein the address data cleansing
5 data element includes a disable cleansing flag element;
6 an address data cleansing data element;
7 an address relationship data element; and
8 an address custom data element.

1 7. The method of Claim 6, wherein the address relationship data element
2 includes:

3 an address effective end date element;
4 an address occupancy type code element;
5 an address effective start date element;
6 an address type code element; and
7 an address list of roles element.

1 8. The method of Claim 5, wherein each of the plurality of related inventory
2 locations include a related inventory location identifier element and a related
3 inventory location type code element.

1 9. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of instructions
2 for managing inventory, wherein execution of the one or more sequences of
3 instructions by one or more processors causes the one or more processors to
4 perform:

5 extracting inventory location information in a first form that is associated with
6 a first source computerized inventory management system;
7 converting the inventory location information in the first form into inventory
8 location information that is in a second intermediate form; and
9 converting the inventory location information in the second intermediate form
10 into inventory location information in a target form that corresponds to
11 a target computerized inventory management system.

1 10. The computer-readable medium of Claim 9, further comprising:
2 using the inventory location information in the target form to perform at least
3 one computer-implemented act from a set of computer-implemented
4 acts comprising:

5 creating a new inventory location record in the target computerized
6 inventory management system; and
7 updating an existing inventory location record in the target
8 computerized inventory management system.

1 11. The computer-readable medium of Claim 9, further comprising:
2 extracting inventory location information in a third form that is associated with
3 a second source computerized inventory management system that is
4 distinct from the first source computerized inventory management
5 system;

6 converting the inventory location information in the third form into inventory
7 location information that is in the second intermediate form;
8 converting the inventory location information in the second intermediate form
9 into inventory location information in the target form; and
10 using the inventory location information in the target form to perform at least
11 one computer-implemented act from a set of computer-implemented
12 acts comprising:
13 creating a new inventory location record in the target computerized
14 inventory management system; and
15 updating an existing inventory location record in the target
16 computerized inventory management system.

- 1 12. The computer-readable medium of Claim 9, wherein the second intermediate
2 form includes a list of inventory locations class with a hierarchy of data
3 elements.
- 1 13. The computer-readable medium of Claim 12, wherein the hierarchy of data
2 elements includes a plurality of inventory location elements which include
3 other elements.
- 1 14. The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of
2 inventory location elements includes an identifier for identifying the inventory
3 location element;
- 1 15. The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of
2 inventory location elements includes a base data element for defining:
3 a location description;
4 a location name; and

5 a location type code.

1 16. The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of
2 inventory location elements includes a list of addresses element for defining
3 a plurality of address elements from a party class.

1 17. The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of
2 inventory location elements includes a list of related business units elements
3 for defining a plurality of business units associated with the inventory.

1 18. The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of
2 inventory location elements includes a list of related inventory locations for
3 defining a plurality of related inventory locations.

1 19. The computer-readable medium of Claim 13, wherein each of the plurality of
2 inventory location elements includes a custom data element for defining
3 customized attributes for the inventory.

1 20. The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein each of the plurality of
2 address elements includes:

3 an address identifier element;
4 an address base data element;
5 an address data cleansing data element;
6 an address relationship data element; and
7 an address custom data element.

1 21. The computer-readable medium of Claim 20, wherein the address data
2 cleansing data element includes a disable cleansing flag element.

- 1 22. The computer-readable medium of Claim 20, wherein the address
- 2 relationship data element includes:
 - 3 an address effective end date element;
 - 4 an address occupancy type code element;
 - 5 an address effective start date element;
 - 6 an address type code element; and
 - 7 an address list of roles element.
- 1 23. The computer-readable medium of Claim 17, wherein each of the plurality of
- 2 business units associated with the inventory includes an identifier element.
- 1 24. The computer-readable medium of Claim 18, wherein each of the plurality of
- 2 related inventory locations include a related inventory location identifier
- 3 element and a related inventory location type code element.
- 1 25. A data structure for managing inventory, the data structure comprising a list
- 2 of inventory locations class with a hierarchy of data elements, wherein the
- 3 hierarchy of data elements includes a plurality of inventory location elements
- 4 which include other elements.
- 1 26. The data structure of Claim 25, wherein each of the plurality of inventory
- 2 location elements includes:
 - 3 an identifier for identifying the inventory location element; and
 - 4 a base data element for defining:
 - 5 a location description;
 - 6 a location name; and
 - 7 a location type code.

1 27. The data structure of Claim 25, wherein each of the plurality of inventory
2 location elements includes;
3 a list of addresses element for defining a plurality of address elements from a
4 party class;
5 a list of related business units elements for defining a plurality of business
6 units associated with the inventory;
7 a list of related inventory locations for defining a plurality of related inventory
8 locations; and
9 a custom data element for defining customized attributes for the inventory.

1 28. The data structure of Claim 27, wherein each of the plurality of address
2 elements includes:
3 an address identifier element;
4 an address base data element;
5 an address data cleansing data element;
6 an address relationship data element; and
7 an address custom data element.

1 29. The data structure of Claim 28, wherein the address data cleansing data
2 element includes a disable cleansing flag element.

1 30. The data structure of Claim 28, wherein the address relationship data
2 element includes:
3 an address effective end date element;
4 an address occupancy type code element;
5 an address effective start date element;
6 an address type code element; and

7 an address list of roles element.

1 31. The data structure of Claim 27, wherein each of the plurality of business units
2 associated with the inventory includes an identifier element.

1 32. The data structure of Claim 27, wherein each of the plurality of related
2 inventory locations include a related inventory location identifier element and
3 a related inventory location type code element.